WITK

The Spark Gap

NOVEMBER 1986

Book XI Vol XI

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society

President's Message

by Tom Kinahan, N1CPE

In response to a request from the Newton - Wellesley Hospital, and carrying over from last month, Please let me know if you are equipped with VHF FM gear, Mobile HF gear, and/or have a 4 wheel drive vehicle that you can use in severe weather emergencies over the winter and at other times. This information will help me answer some general and some specific questions they are asking, and it will help generate a list of people and their portable/mobile capabilities. Contact me at a club meeting, on the repeater, or on the phone at 898-2749.

Thanks and 73 de N1CPE

Wellesley Veterans Parade

The Wellesley Veterans Parade was held on October 19th and the Wellesley A.R.S. was there to help coordinate things. The parade route was from the area of the Red Cross along Washington Street down to Weston Road. W.A.R.S. radio operators were placed on the intersections of Washington Street and Woodlawn Street, Elm Street, and Croton Street, as well as a floater on Washington St. There were additional operators at the float setup area, with the parade starters, and another at the parade reviewing stand in Wellesley Square.

Thanks to the following operators for helping out : Scott Nacey, WA1YOJ; Ged Weare, NF1Z; C.J. MacDonald, WB1BUM; Dave Kent, N2AWG; Paul Davis, N1EGC; Paul Monroe, KA1LDV; and Tom Kinahan, N1CPE.

September VHF Contest

The results are in for the September VHF contest. Here they are :

Band	QSO's	Grids
50 Mhz	157	34
144 Mhz	190	30
450 Mhz	3	2
10 Ghz	2	2
Total	352	68
Points	24,412	

September VHF Contest Results

MEETINGS THIS MONTH:

November 6 , 1986 at 7:30 P.M.
November 20, 1986 at 7:30 P.M.
211 Washington St., Wellesley

Calendar

- *November 1 & 2* : November Sweepstakes, *CW*
- *November 6* : W.A.R.S. meeting
- *November 15 & 16* : November Sweepstakes, *Phone*
- *November 20* : W.A.R.S. meeting
- *December 20* : FCC Exam at the Wellesley Red Cross.

Exam Opportunities

The following FCC exam opportunities still exist for this Autumn. In general you will need to bring a completed Form 610, your original FCC license, a copy of your license, the $ 4.25 exam fee, some pencils, a picture ID, and a winning attitude. Check with the contact person as soon as possible.

Contact Vern, ND1Z if you need a form 610 or know of someone who is interested in taking only the Novice exam.

Date	Place	Contact
11/19	MIT, Cambridge	Ron Hoffman 253-0160
12/17	MIT, Cambridge	Ron Hoffman 253-0160
12/20	Wellesley Red Cross Wellesley,MA	Vern Valero ND1Z 533-6822

New Tickets

Lou Morotta	N1EHI	to General
Jim Charboneau	KA1OJA	to Advanced

Lou deserves special congratulations, because as you may know, he is blind. This handicap has made copying of Morse Code a very painful experience. But Lou made it! Best wishes to a truly outstanding club member!

Help Publicize Novice Class

Consider "working on" those friends and relatives who have taken more than a passing interest in your ham radio activities. We will be starting a Novice class in January and would like some enthusiastic participants.

It is not too early to encourage potential students. Many of us had considered becoming hams for a long time before actually making the decision to obtain a ticket. Take the time to explain the different modes and activities to your friends. Have them talk on SSB or FM in a third party arrangement. Bring them to a club event. In other words, get them all fired-up about ham radio!

The success of Novice classes is crucial to club development. The new Novices go on to upgrade in the General Class and inject new life into the

OFFICERS

President
Tom Kinahan, N1CPE, 898-2749
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Bob Drapeau, KT1K, 883-1132
Education Chairman
Vern Valero, ND1Z, 533-6822
Repeater Committee Chairman
Paul Davis, N1EGC, 646-3599

The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society

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THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, F.C.C. RULES & REGULATIONS CHANGES, AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE "SPARK GAP" AND MAY SENT THEIR ARTICLES (TYPEWRITTEN IF POSSIBLE) TO THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OR TO THE CLUB ADDRESS.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION, AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY IS $10. THE CLUB YEAR RUNS SEPTEMBER 1 TO AUGUST 31. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS, OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE:

The Wellesley Amateur Radio Society
211 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, Ma. 02181

club. The last Novice class has produced several active members and even a new repeater control operator! Let us continue this good work and ensure that this Winter's Novice class has plenty of students!

November Sweepstakes

Save the weekends of November 1st & 2nd as well as the 15th & 16th for November sweepstakes. The weekend of the 1st & 2nd will be *CW*. The club station, W1TKZ, will be open during this weekend. The weekend of the 15th & 16th is *PHONE* and W1TKZ will be on the air the entire contest weekend. Sign up at the club meeting.

FCC Exam at Wellesley Red Cross

The Wellesley Amateur Radio Society will sponsor an FCC exam at the Wellesley Red Cross building on Saturday December 20 at 9 AM. Candidates are asked to contact Dan KZ1D at 460-9059 or Vern ND1Z at 533-6822 as soon as possible to reserve a place. Exams for all license classes from Novice through Extra will be available.

Candidates must provide a completed Form 610 (may be obtained at any WARS meeting), a copy of the current amateur license, and a check for $ 4.25 payable to ARRL/VEC. They must also show their original amateur license and a picture ID.

WARS volunteer examiners are encouraged to participate in the December exam and receive credit from the ARRL. Extra and Advanced operators who are not volunteer examiners are encouraged to write the ARRL headquarters and ask for the volunteer examiner handbook and test. Certification is quite easy and involves completing an open book test.

Advanced Class

Our first Advanced Class has now begun! Frank, NG1I treated the class to Rules and Regulations. Who is more competent to teach the subject than a policeman? Towards the end of the class Frank had the students arguing about some of the finer points of the rules. This is a good sign! It implies that we have sharp students.

The video taping effort is going smoothly due to the fine efforts of Tom, N1CPE. He is destined for cameraman stardom. And do relax future

teachers, we are not required to wear make-up or read from cue-cards.

The tapes are available for personal use. If you can not attend the classes but would like to upgrade at the December exam, remember that the tapes are there to help you out. You may make a copy for yourself and then return it to us as soon as possible. We are looking for people who see Frank, WA1WNR or Kathy, KA1IYR regularly who can pass the tapes on to them.

Many thanks to all who are helping to make the Advanced Class a success.

Vern Valero

533-6822

Repeater

by Tom Kinahan, N1CPE

The Wellesley repeater on 147.63/03 has recently undergone some changes that should increase its range and eliminate some of the recent problems. Feel free to check out its range and report results to a club officer.

Its again time that we review some of the emergency procedures in use on our repeater.

Whenever you, as a user of the repeater, hear the squelch tail sign **NWH** in morse code after each transmission, there is some emergency at the Newton - Wellesley Hospital (the repeater is located there) in which hospital authorities require communications assistance. If you hear this,*contact either a club officer, or phone the hospital.* Frequently in a communications emergency, phones will be out, but it is still possible to contact persons at the hospital by accessing the code to call the switchboard at the hospital (200). We have been informed that the internal telephone system in the hospital is very unlikely to fail in a normal emergency where outside lines are out.

This brings me to another topic that is important for **all** users of the repeater system to know. Specifically, if you have some **emergency** condition where you must contact a police or fire department not listed in the autodial phone system, you can contact the operator at the hospital using the code **200** and ask them to complete the call for you. However, you **MUST** identify yourself as an **Amateur Radio Operator** or they simply will not understand your request.

As an example, I am in Framingham, and stumble upon a car fire on route 9 on my commute home. I can't call the Framingham fire department directly on the system because of toll restrictions, but I could do the following :

"This is N1CPE on the patch to the Hospital switchboard." I unkey, and listen for any objections. I transmit, and key in 200 on my touchtone pad.

The reply is "Operator." (This operator is in the Newton - Wellesley Hospital)

"Hello, I am an **Amateur Radio Operator** *with an emergency situation, can you please connect me with the Framingham Fire Department? Over."*

Either the operator will ask what the problem is, or simply connect you. then, you hear "Framingham Fire Department?" From your radio.

Explain the situation... *"Hello. I am an Amateur radio operator. There is a car fire on route 9 at Edgell Road on the westbound side. There are no injuries. Over."*

A typical response to you is, "Ok, we'll have someone right there. Thank you."

Then, you identify yourself and clear the

phone call. Say, *"This is N1CPE clearing the patch."* Then unkey. Then transmit again, and key in the poundsign on you keypad followed by a 5 and a 0 (#50).

At this point, make a note either mental or written what time it is and what day it is, and inform a control operator of the call.

If a similar event had happened in a place where there are codes for direct access to the department you need, please use them if at all possible.

The following list contains a few changes from the past, most notably **the code for Wellesley Police and Ambulance is now 911.**

Wellesley Amateur Radio Society
147.63/03 W1TKZ/R Repeater
Emergency Autodial Codes

#50 Clear – This is REQUIRED to hang up.
500 Timer Reset
200 Newton – Wellesley Hospital switchboard
201 Wellesley Fire
202 Weston Police
203 Weston Fire and Ambulance
204 State Police, Weston, Turnpike
205 Massachusetts Civil Defense
206 Newton 911, Police, Fire, Ambulance
207 Waltham Police and Ambulance
208 Waltham Fire
209 MDC Police
210 Needham Police
212 Needham Fire
213 Boston Police
214 Boston Fire
215 Coast Guard
216 Watertown Police
217 Watertown Fire
218 Brookline Police
219 Brookline Fire
220 Cambridge Police
221 Cambridge Fire
222 Arlington Police
223 Arlington Fire
224 Lincoln Police and Fire
225 Dedham Police
226 Dedham Fire
227 Medford Police
228 Medford Fire and Ambulance
229 Somerville Police and Ambulance
230 Somerville Fire
231 Winchester Police
232 Winchester Fire and Ambulance
233 Wellesley Civil Defense
234 Wellesley Chapter, American Red Cross
236 C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM (Control Operator)

911 Wellesley Police and Ambulance

If you have a situation that requires some other agency not listed, contact the Newton - Wellesley Hospital operator (Key in 200). Identify yourself as an AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR and ask for assistance. The key words here are AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR.

Simulated Emergency Test

S.E.T. Time !

Last years S.E.T. was a well orchestrated drill involving a number of Hams and public service agencies including the Boston Med Flight, simulating an evacuation of the Wellesley area during a mock earthquake.

Stay tuned for this years S.E.T. plans.

Christmas PARTY

Potluck Supper

We would very much like to celebrate Christmas together as the big family that WARS has become. The party will be held in early December in a potluck format and will be lots of fun.

A potluck supper involves each person cooking and bringing their favorite dish. This minimizes cost and ensures that everyone will have a home-cooked meal. It is a great opportunity to show off your favorite recipe and genius in the kitchen.

The possible sites include the ND1Z homestead

in Franklin, the Red Cross building, or another member's home closer to Wellesley. We don't want to push our luck too much with the Red Cross. The ND1Z QTH is always welcome, but a little cramped for space and a distance away. We do not believe that the number of the party-goers would justify renting a hall. If someone with a larger home would generously volunteer their QTH for the party, a guarantee of help with set-up and clean-up would be assured.

Please join us in this fun celebration! Cook up your favorite dish and share it with your friends. Contact me on the telephone or through Vern on the 147.03 repeater. Let's have a great party!

Liz Valero

533-6822

Lost in the Mail !!!

As you probably know, your October issue of the Spark Gap was just a wee bit late getting to your mailbox. We must apologize and supply this brief explanation. We mail an original copy of the Spark Gap to our printers where we drop by a day or so later to get the copies. The original was mailed well in advance of the first of the month, but didn't arrive at the printer's until sometime during the second week. Once we got the copies, though, they were off to you.

Privacy Act, 1986

The Electronic Communication Privacy Act of 1986 has been signed into law by President Reagan. This bill limits the public's right to listen to all frequencies. Although this law is not as restrictive as the original proposal, it warrants a closer look. Details will be available in future publications of the Amateur press.

Automatic Control for VHF Packet

From ARRL Letter 10-13-86

The Commission has acted in PR Docket 85-105 to make permanent the provisions of the temporary waiver issued earlier in the year permitting network amateur stations, transmitting digital communications on VHF and above, using the AX.25 protocol, to be operated under automatic control while retransmitting third-party traffic.

Although the FCC acknowledged assurances of safeguards by the ARRL for the AX.25 packet protocol, the FCC noted that control operators capable of monitoring such transmissions must alert the control operator of any intermediate transmitting station, under automatic control, of any station misuse so that corrective action can be taken.

The Commission deferred action on requests for automatic control for digital communications on HF until its feasibility can be determined.

Wellesley Amateur Radio Society
Membership Application

Name :

Call Sign :

Address :

License Class :

City :

State :

Zip :

ARRL Member? :

Phone :

Which club activities do you plan to participate in?

Field Day

Flea Market

Public Service

Message Fair

Simulated Emergency Test

Auction

(V)HF Contests (state which ones) :

Other :

Do you have any special knowledge, equipment, etc. that could be the subject of a talk at a club meeting?

What do you want out of your club membership?

What are your special areas of interest in Amateur radio?

Can you become available during emergencies requiring communicators?

Please enclose $10.00 dues and $2.00 for each additional family member (please supply names above) and mail to :

Wellesley Amateur Radio Society
211 Washington St.
Wellesley, Ma. 02181

NOV 29
Pat Leach

The Spark Gap

WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

211 Washington Street
Wellesley, Massachusetts 02181

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

FIRST CLASS MAIL